

Claim Amendments

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

List of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing aqueous primary dispersions of polymer-ensheathed pigment, which ~~comprises~~ consists essentially of:

(a) preparing a suspension of at least one polyfunctional isocyanate monomer (a) and
(b) at least one compound having isocyanate-reactive groups (b) selected from polyetherols, polyesterols, polyhydric alcohols having up to 8 carbon atoms, polycarbonate diols, polyhydroxyolefins, polyhydroxyurethanes, polyisobutenediols, polysiloxanes having on average at least 2 hydroxyl groups per molecule and lactone-based polyesterdiols in an aqueous medium with a surfactant under agitation to form a miniemulsion;
suspending pigment particles in an aqueous medium with a surfactant under agitation to form a miniemulsion of predispersed pigment particles; and
combining the pigment dispersion with the suspension of reactive monomer and conducting polymerization of the monomer, thereby forming a primary pigmented polymer dispersion.
~~being mixed with pigment, water and if appropriate one or more surface active substances and reacted with each other.~~

Claim 2 (Original): The process according to claim 1 wherein (a) and (b) are mixed with water and pigment to form a miniemulsion having an average diameter in the range from 20 to 1000 nm for the monomer droplets.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein at least one pigment is an organic pigment or is carbon black.

Claim 4 (Canceled):

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim [[4]] 1 that utilizes a compound (a) or (b) as a surface-active substance.

Claim 6 (Canceled):

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): An aqueous primary dispersion produced by a process according to claim 1.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The aqueous primary dispersion according to claim [[6]] 19, wherein the water content is in the range from 30 % to 95 % by weight.

Claim 9 (Canceled):

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A finished leather product prepared by treating an unfinished leather with at least one aqueous primary dispersion according to claim [[6]] 19.

Claim 11 (Canceled):

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A colored textile product prepared by coloring an unfinished leather with at least one aqueous primary dispersion according to claim [[6]] 19.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A print paste comprising at least one aqueous primary dispersion according to claim 7.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A fibrous substrate en-sheathed with at least one aqueous primary dispersion of polymer-en-sheathed pigment according to claim 7.

Claim 15 (Canceled):

Claim 16 (Previously Amended): An ink jet process ink comprising at least one aqueous primary dispersion according to claim [[6]] 19.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): An en-sheathed pigment obtainable by a process according to claim 1 and subsequent application of a drying process.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A process for producing en-sheathed pigments, which comprises first producing an aqueous primary dispersion according to claim 1 and then isolating the en-sheathed pigment by a drying process.

Claim 19 (New): A process for producing aqueous primary dispersions of polymer-en-sheathed pigment, which consists essentially of:

preparing a suspension of at least one polyfunctional isocyanate monomer (a), at least one compound having isocyanate-reactive groups (b) selected from polyetherols, polyesterols, polyhydric alcohols having up to 8 carbon atoms, polycarbonate diols, polyhydroxyolefins, polyhydroxyurethanes, polyisobutenediols, polysiloxanes having on average at least 2 hydroxyl groups per molecule and lactone-based polyesterdiols, and one or

more free-radically polymerizable monomers (c) in an aqueous medium with a surfactant under agitation to form a miniemulsion;

suspending pigment particles in an aqueous medium with a surfactant under agitation to form a miniemulsion of predispersed pigment particles; and

combining the pigment dispersion with the aqueous suspension of reactive monomer and conducting polymerization of the monomer, thereby forming a primary pigmented polymer dispersion.